is Poem was first read on Monday, January 19th by Mr. James E. Murdoch, the celebrated elocuto a select circle at the Executive Mansion, in esence of the President and Mrs. Lincoln. The ements for this reading were ma_e, we underd, by our distinguished Senator Foot. On the evelag of the same day Mr. Murdoch read it in the Sen-Chamber of the United States, which was specially appropriated for the purpose; and it has since been read in other cities. Every Vermonter will read them with special interest:)

Twas in the sultry summer-time, as War's red records show, hen patriot armies rose to meet a fratricidal foe— hen from the North, and East, and West, nice the

thin a prison's dismal walls, where shadows veiled decay-fetters, on a heap of straw, a youthful soldier lay : art-proken, hopeless, and foriorn, with short and fe-

waited but the appointed hour to die a culprit's but a few brief weeks before, untroubled with a air— here sparkling streams leap mossy rocks, from many

waving eims, and grass; slopes, give beauty to re, dwelling in an humble cot, a tiller of the soil, borne upon the waiting winds, his suffering coun-

his young heart with fervent seal, for her to live hen left he all :- a few fond tears, by firmness half conceased, blessing, and a parting prayer, and he was in the field — he field of strife, whose dews are blood, whose breezes War's hot breath, hose fruits are garnered in the grave, whose hus-

thout a murmur, he endured a service new and night, on guard, sank, exhausted, at his post, and the grey morning prostrate form-a sentinel, asleep, upon the

in the silence of the night, aweary on the sod, h the disciples, watching near the suffering Son of Jesus, with compassion moved, beheld their heavy d. though betraved to ruthless foes, forgiving, bade

tice blend; And this poor soldier, seized and bound, found none to Twas night,-In a secluded room, with measured

trend and slow, statesman of commanding mien, paced gravely to and fro.

Oppressed, he pondered on a land by civil discord rent;

On brothers armed in deadly strife:—it was the Presithe woes of thirty millions filled his burdened heart

Embattled hosts, on land and sea, acknowledged him And yet, amid the din of war, he heard the plaintive of that poor soldier, as he lay in prison, doomed to

I was morning. On a tented field, and through the heated haze, Flashed back, from lines of burnished arms, the sun's effulgent blaze; While, from a sombre prison-house, seen slowly to emerge, A sai procession, o'er the sward, moved to a muffled

auxious face. In manacles, between two guards, a soldier had his but shame, That smote his gallant hear: with dread, and shook his

sucd its way
Up to the designated spot, wherean a ceffin lay—
His coffin! And, with recting leain, despairing, deso-Then came across his wavering shift strange pictures

in the air : He saw his distant mountain home ; he saw his pardeclining years; He saw a nameless grave; and then, the vision closed

Yet, once again. In double file, advancing, then, he Twelve comrades, sternly set upart to execute the settled roundAnd, shuddering, he awaited now the fatal volley's Then suddenly was heard the noise of stoods and wheels

approach,—
And, rolling through a cloud of dust, appeared a state-On, past the guards, and through the field, its rapid Till, halting, 'mid the line: was seen the nation's Presi-

He came to save that stricken soul, now waking from despair;
And from a thousand voices rose a shout which rent the The pardoned soldier understood the tones of jubi-And, bounding from his fetters, blessed the hand that

'Twas Spring .- Within a verdant vale, where Warwick's crystal tide Reflected, o'er its peaceful breast, fair fields on either Where birds and flowers combined to cheer a sylvan Two threatening armies, face to iace, in fleros defiance

Two threatening armies ! One invoked by injured Lib. erty— Which bore above its patriot ranks the Symbol of the And one, a rebel horde, beneath a flaunting flag of bars, A fragment, torn by traitorous hands, from Freedom's

A sudden burst of smoke and flame, from many a thundering gun,
Proclaimed, along the echoing hills, the conflict had

While shot and shell, athwart the stream with flendish fury sped
To strew among the living lines, the dying and the
dead!

Then, louder than the roaring storm, pealed forth the stern command,
"Charge ! soldiers, charge !" and, at the word, with
shouts, a reariess band,
Two hundred heroes from Vermont, rushed onward, through the flood,
And upward, o'er the rising ground, they marked their
way in blood 1

The smitten foe before them fled, in terror, from his while, unsustained, two hundred stood, to battle with Then, turning, as the rallying ranks, with murdero They bore the fallen o'er the field, and through the purple tide! The fallen! And the first who fell in that unequal

Was he whom Mercy sped to save when Justice claimraged around—
While yet his life-blood ebbed away through every gaping wound—

gregational Church in the State, and the sechile yet his voice grew tremnlous, and med his eye—
med his eye—
e called his comrades to attest, he had not fear die! in his last expiring breath, a prayer to he God, with His unfailing grace, would be

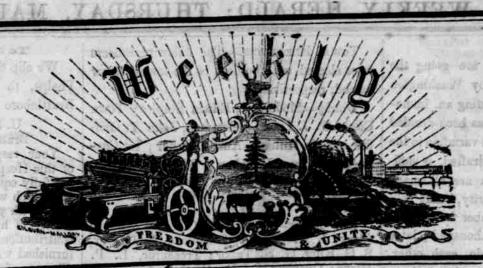
It Is Well. BY D. T. TAYLOR. that the path which we tread her below ingled with thorns thick and drexy, beautiful flowers we may cull as re go; feet should grow bleeding and arv. that the storms which arise on ar sky, at howl in our night time of saless; seeded by calm when the cless have swi followed by sunshine and gliness.

that the cup, all o'errunnin with grief,— we drink bowed in anguish and weeping,— we sweet with the bitter to ring us relief, he soul its steadfastness is eaping. hat the loved ones who car us with smalle t all yet forsaken and leas; hearts are near, the love hours to beguile, Time has not of them breft us.

he dark spirits that per through the glot the blest visions that bund us, a cour souls, for Go, ar gels are come, ir bi. that wings are bled around us.

tet the Vinds blow high or blow low, of the he darkly fore us; and look . To the covenant bow Maker is bending or us.

Mutland





VOL. 69 NO. 10.

RUTLAND, VT., THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 5, 1863.

Rutland County and its Invasion in 1777.

Read by Henry Hall. Esq., before the Vermont Historical Society at Middlebury, Februark

If we could, by waiving a magician's wand, call up before us in panoramic view, the te ritory now constituting Rutland county as it existed 85 or 86 years ago, wherein would the tableau differ from that presented to-day ?-To-day, nearly two-thirds of the land in the County is improved—then, over the mountains and the higher uplands swept the primeval forest in its matchless beauty, untorn by the tornado and almost untouched by the woodman's axe, while along the rich alluvial intervals upon the larger rivers and creeks, could be seen numerous clearings dotted over with log houses, and occasionally a plank or frame house, shrewdly located upon gentle eminences to avoid the terrific freshets of the Spring, when the deep snow, melted with the warm rains. filled the streams, overflowed the meadows, and swept away everything moveable in its path. Instead of railroad cars, whirling thousands of passengers and myriad tons of freight along its valleys and over its hills, there could be traced a few forest roads, abounding in stumps and mud, ill adapted to the use even of the pedestrian, equestrian or slow moving ox, while wheeled vehicles were almost unserviceable .-If you were to enter one of the houses you would behold no elegant suite of apartments, no frescoed walls, or stucco work : possibly you might see, - but not aways,-that the inside of the logs been hewed, the crevices stopped with bits of board, straw and mortar; the house sometimes contained more than one room: over head was a moderate sized attic, reached by holes left or cut in the logs, or a rudely contructed ladder: the fire-place, with a stone bottom and back, had no jambs, and the chimney, from the ceiling up, was made of slats of wood, besmeared inside with mor ar tempered with straw; the roof was of bark, thatch slabs or boards: the windows, few and small, were of oiled paper, and linen, isinglass, parchment, and in rare instances of real glass. 6x8 or 7x9, while some had only sliding boards; the doors of plank had wooden latches, drawn by a string always "out," except for public foes; the floor, perhaps of earth, if of boards, contained a small trap-door over the meat barrel and perhaps vegetables, although the latter for better flavor were generally buried in the earth, a few rods from the house; in the rear of the house was a small enclosure of logs, high and firmly roofed, in which, at night, were perhaps half a dozen sheep or a few swine, safe from the bears and wolves that swarmed through the woods, in numbers to us almost incredible. Inventory

the furniture, you will find no polished marble or marbleized slate; no damask. lace, or brocatelle; no wilton, brussels, three-ply, ingrain or even rag carpeting; no rose-wood or mahogony; no hair cloth; no piano, or pier glass; no gas fixtures or candelabras, no glass lamps, with kerosene, fluid or even whale oil. That table of boards, resting on sticks, has no leaf; "the Otter Creek bedstead" is made of two poles driven into the logs, resting on two sticks and strapped together with slippery elm or other bark, or slats, and the bed-tick is filled with deer-hair or hen feathers; there is a wooden shovel and a poker, but no tongs; there is no Stewart's cooking-stove, or sitting-room stove of iron or soap-stone, for wood or mine ral coal; no furnace to get out of order, or burn their State House, but the horse often draws into the house the fore-log and the back og; the seats are not of costly woods, but of native blocks, boards laid on sticks, and sometimes kitchen chairs; the milk is kept chiefly in wooden dishes, covered with cloth to keep out dirt from old bark; pans, plates, platters and powls, generally of wood; earthen ware, pewter ware and crockery partially introduced knives abound, forks rare; if iron candle-sticks are wanting, the huge blazing fire, and the pine knots light their short evenings; ovens are built two or three rods from the house, of stone, raised on sticks and roofed over with bark or boards, to keep off rain; you will not forget to notice the gun and equipments, or the deer's horn in every house, or that the outside of the building is plastere (with the drying skins of wild animals. The setting out or even the trosseau of Mrs. Tom Thumb would furnish such a township or county in household

furniture, and none of its citizens would be liable to pay Uncle Samuel any tax for silver plate, under the present excise law If you were to address some of the citizens and ask them how they had fared since they settled in this wilderness-they would reply that at first their means were scanty, their toils great, their crops uncertain and only available after much hardship, for having no mills they were obliged to go to Ti, Skeenesboro, Bernington or No. 4 for their meal and flour, salt and iron, often carrying them the whole distance on their backs, for all had not horses or oxen-that when the roads permitted they took two staddles for thills and runners, and fastening them together midway with sticks, they lashed thereon their bags of provisions and barrels of rum: that soon they had saw mills and grist mills in almost every town on Otter Creek, and on Castleton and Poultney rivers; that although much annoyed by the Yorkers, especially in Clarendon, yet with a merry laugh of triumph, they would tell you of the beneficial effects of beach sealing; that as yet they had suffered but little from the war with Great Britain; and if they had no court house, jail or sheriff in the County, for having declared themselves free from every other government, and having, as yet, formed none of their gwn, they were witnest political ker and Mr. Thomas Tuttle, Rutland by Capt. organization, except that of the towns and the Joseph Bowker and Col. James Mead, Walhemselves, from their own sense of justice very much cultivated by the controversies and necessities of the times, they had yet, four years before, erected a log meeting house at

Center Rutland, formed there the tenth Con-

ond one west of the mountains, consisting of from East R. Two from West Rutland, Allen.

from East R. Two Legislature, October, 1778, this Country om Tinmouth and one from Wallingford, ty was represented as follows, viz: Pollet by w. Na college-educated pastor; that if they had no temperance societies, they drank no prussic acid, ate no opium, scarcely used any tea, coffee or gentlemanly and beastly tobacco; Lieut. Abner Lewis, Wallingford by Mr. Abrathat if they rarely saw silk or cotton, they raised wool and flax, had abundance of dee skins, coon skins, bear skins, squirrel skins and sometimes moose skins, and could manufacture their own garments; that although they were so far from market and had so little trade, they possessed few foreign luxuries, yet they could raise all grains and vegetables, make abundance of maple sugar, fatten the choicest beef, mutton and pork, while the most delicious trout, the rarest venison and other wild game were the easy rewards of their leisure hours that if they had no dentists, false teeth or gold filling, they had the natural ivory, with which they might rival Ethan Allen in biting the ten-penny nail in two—an achievement which excited the admiration of Kossuth, as appears by his letter to Gov. Williams; that if they were thinly clad and coolly housed, they had not the honor of an acquaintance with the nervous family, rheumatism, tic douloureux, and neuralgia; that if the ladies lacked the tressing languer of fashionable inertness or debility, kept no help, wore no diamonds, no \$1000 shawls or \$1000 furs, could play no musical instruments, or execute no unladylike, mmodest European dance, yet they tastefully made up the mink and other furs brought them by their bruthers, could, without fatigue, walk several miles to visit a friend, could drive

or ride a horse, catch a trout, shoot a deer, or deftly row the bonny boat; and if their husbands or brothers were obliged to leave home te garrison a fort, repel an attack, defend the frontier, or on business, they could take proper care of the stock and of the field crops, or could bar the doors and windows, and fearlessly and skillfully handle the musket against

rowling beasts or murderous Indians. The year 1777 is memorable in the history of Vermont, as the year wherein it declared itself free and independent, its first Constitution was formed, the first and last battle was fought within its limits, with disastrous results, and another and a greater was fo't upon its borders with results whereat the American eye glistens with satisfaction. To this County the year is memorable, not only for the battle, but because, for weeks the Briton and the German posted at Castleton held insolent sway over all its borders, domineering so ruthlessly over the peaceful, that most of the spirited and patriotic fled, thereby enduering much pecuni-ary loss and much personal suffering, privation and hardship for themselves and families.

the County-pity none of her citizens have life enough to give us her history. Danby and Clarendon were settled before 1768; Rutland, Castleton, Pittsford, Tinmouth, Wallingford and Wells, as early as 1770, or earlier, were busy building log huts and planning about mills ; Brandon and Hubbardton contained each a few families as early

Pawlet claims to be the first settled town in

Pittsford, as early as February 15, 1771, deplores the loss of her "former records by fire," and on the third of September, 1771, votes to "give Samuel Crippen fifty acres of hand, upon his getting a good mill to grind by

the first of December [then] next." Col. John Henry Lydius, of Albany-son of an English missionary to the Mohawks-having, on the first of February, 1732, obtained a formal deed from the Great Sachems of that tribe, of a tract of land extending up Otter Creek, sixty miles in length, and twenty-four miles in breadth, and having his title confirmed August 31, 1744, by Gov. Shirley, of Massachuseits, acting under special authority from George II., about 1761 begins to grant deeds of the premises to citizens of New York, Connee ticut. Massachusetts and Rhode Island charters and patents thereof, with a rivalry that gave to the latter large financial profits, and to the settlers strife and collision, loss of property and personal distress. The New H ampshire charters cost only about \$100, and were generally purchased and located first :the New York charters cost about \$2300. with 2s 6d sterling, annual rent for each 100 acres, and were attempted to be enforced by the Sheriff, with posse comitatus; the first seitlers. therefore, must either buy off at ruinous rates. or resist. They generally chose the latter -Clarendon, chartered by New York, under the name of Durham, was mainly settled, at first, by Rhode Islanders, under deeds from Lydius, but they soon bought also confirmation deeds from the Yorkers. Charles Button, of Clarendon, writes James Duane, in the Fall of 1773, that thirty-five families claimed under New York : and so violent had the Yorkers become that during that same Fall, Ethan Allen, Seth Warner, Remember Baker and Robert Cockrane, with about one hundred armed men, visit the town for the second time in force, and administer summary justice to Benjamin Spen--cer and others ; the Durhamites fled and New .Hampshire grant-order reigned in Clarendon. The New Hampshire Grant Town, Rutland, nearly corresponding with the New York town of Socialborough, and the Lydius town of Fairfield, was as decided in its adhesion to the Green Mountain Boys, as Clarendon was to the Youkers. Three of its citizens, viz., John Sm.ith, Sylvanus Brown and Peleg Sunderland. were honored by the New York Legislature, with special anathemas, with ontlawry, and £50 each offered for their heads -The first Angle-Saxon whose "manifest destiny" it was to be born in Clarendon, was Durham Sprague, born June 9, 1769; in Rutland, William Powers, born Sept. 23, 1770; in Pittsford, Alfred Buck, born March 28, 1771; in Castleton, Israel Buel, born in 1771, and in Hubbardton, Elizabeth Hickok, born Aug. 1,

In the Fall of 1773, Rev. Benajah Roots writes there are thirty-five families in Rutland In June, 1774, two Rhode Islanders, John Anthony and Jonathan Otis, visiting Rutland, report hity or seventy families in the town, and at the northeast corner a school house; two two churches, with pastors-one Congregation- miles North lived Capt. John Hall, who had al and one Baptist.

By the Constitution of 1777, each town with over "eighty taxable inhabitants" was entitled to send two representatives to the Legislature, and in 1778 Rutland sends two representatives : whence we infer that the population was then at least 500.

The State Committee petitioning Congress in January, 1777, for recognition and admission, say the State can muster more than 5000 hardy soldiers to defend American liberty ;whence we infer the population of the State then to have been about 30,000, or one-third of its number in 1790.

In 1790, Rutland County had over 15000 inhabitants ;-may we not infer that in 1777 she had a third or a quarter of that number? In the Convention at Dorset, September, 1776, this County was represented as follows, to wit: Pawlet by Capt. Wm. Fitch and Maj. Roger Rose, Weils by Zaccheus Mallery and Og en Mallery, Poultney by Messrs. Nehemiah How and Wm Ward, Castleton by Capt. Jos. Woodward, Neshobe by Capt. Timothy Barpublic committees, and having very little lingford by Mr. Abraham Ives, Tinmouth by lingford by Mr. Abraham Ives, Danby by Capt. Micah Vail and Mr. William

> In the Convention at Westminster, January, 1777, where the State was declared independent, this County was represented as follows, viz: Castleton by Capt. John Hall, Rutland by Capt. Joseph Bowker and Capt. Heman

Mr. Gideon Adams. Danby by Thomas Rowam Jackson, Rutland by Capt. ZebulonMead and Lieut. Roswell Post, Castleton by Jesse Biknap, Esq., Pittsford by Jonathan Fassett, Esq., and Neshobe by Capt. Josiah Powers.

he Burgoyne map exhibits a Fort in Pittsford West of Otter Creek, due East of the batte-ground.

Stellair mentions passing a "picketed Fort" in Ruland. As o the towns lying East of those on Otter Creek, we know of no attempt to settle any of them, except Sherburne, chartered by the name of Kilington. Benjamin Ellery, a merchant of Newport, R. I., procured the charter in 1761, and some of his fellow townsmen, including Ezra Stiles, afterwards President of Yale Colege, purchased a large proportion of the 66 private shares, at \$1 50 per share. In June, 1714, Messrs. Anthony and Otis are sent up to survey the township. They employ "Simeon Stevens, Esq.," as surveyor, and having thoroughly surveyed the town, they stop a few days with Mr. Gideon Walker, who lived near the centre of the present Pine Street in the East village of Rutland. They sketch a map of the town and surroundings, exhibiting Otter Creek, with the falls at Centre Rotland, and the "Grand" (Sutherland) Falls, Walker's house, Rev. Mr. Roots' Meeting House, East Creek, Cold River, the Military

Road, "Rutland Mountain," partly in Claren-don, "Mount Pisgah," in the South line of don, " Mount P Killington, &c.

They report that "Killington being some miles Eastward from Walker, is well clear of Lydius," that once they were "on a large mountain, where we saw all the inhabitants of Otter Creek," that "full two thirds of the town is good for settlement, and very good for grass, better for sheep than the interval upon the Creek," that being "on the height of the land," the streams run East to the "Great River," (Connecticut,) and West into Otter

Stevens reports that he saw no lake or pond or rattlesnake, and no game except one fox, but saw the tracks of bears, deer and moose, and five "beaver meadows." On the 5th of September the Newport Committee write to Walker, offering 100 acres in each of forty shares as a free gift to actual settlers, hinting proposals for a grist-mill impediately and a saw-mill afterwards. On the 10th of November Walker replies that "having recently receives their letter, without less of time he made known the proposals to a number of people, who very readily fel in with it;" that he had done some clearing for them, but it's getting too cold to do more till next year .then he smiles at the grist-mill proposition and suggests that that will be in season if built as early as the grain glows, which cannot be for some years after the land is cleared, but that a saw-mill, if built at once, would materially aid the future setlement, by supplying the means of building &: He adds-"there is no difficulty in getting as good a rode from my house to lot No. 16 in Killington as there is from my house to Durham," and the result is that Ezra Stiles, the then Clerk and future President, with his rartners, have to wait until the war is over for the dividends, on the costs of the charter surveying meetings, books, &c., already about \$200.

One of the most noticeable features in the landscape at this time was the "Military Road" from " No. 4." in New Hampshire, to Ticonderoga and Crown Point, originally opened in 1795, by Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Amherst .-Toward the close of the French war the portion was re-worked. and 1774 this road, leaving Hastings' tavern, at No. 4, 108 miles from Boston, passed Walker's tavern at Charlestown, Now Hampshire and New York claiming the 11 miles, thence three miles to Nott's Ferry, same territory, their respective Governors issue in Springfield, thence 5 miles to Stevens' tavern, in Springfield, thence 2 miles to Spafford's tavern, in Weathersfield, thence 6 miles to Pain's tayern, in Cavendish, thence 5 miles to Coffin's tavern, in Cavendish, thence 20 miles to Charles Button's tavern, on the South side of Mill River, in Clarendon, thence 6 miles to Col. James Mead's tavern, at Centre Rutland, west of Otter Creek, thence 6 miles to Water's tavern in Pittsford, thence through "Brown's Camp," in Neshobe, 20 miles to Moor's tavern, in Shoreham, thence 8 miles to Towner's tavern, in Bradford, thence 2 miles to Lewis' tavern, over the lake to Crown

In 1776 the road was improved, a bridge built over Otter Creek at Centre Rutland, and a new roat cut, running from Mount Independence direct through Hubbardton to Centre Rutland, and thence South-Easterly across the Isaac Matthewson farm, and the North-East corner of Clarendon to Saltash.

Let us turn our attention to the military operations within the Count". Burgoyne having, as he came along the Lake, sent a force of about 500 soldiers and

Indians up Otter Creek toward Skeen sborough, St. Clar on the 27th of June, sends Cöl Seth Warner from Ti to warn the inhabitants, gather the volunteers, attack this force and return as speedily as practicable. On the 2d of July, Warner being at Hubbardton, with Cols. Robinson and Williams, leaves them there, goes to Rutland, where he writes a letter to the Convention at Windsor for help, joins Col. Bellows and starts again for Hubbardton. and three days after, enters Ti with nearly

On the 6th of July, 1777, a hot, sultry Sabbath day, the noted Capt. Sherwood, at the head of a party of tories and Indians, entered Hubbardton and captured Benjamin and Uriah Hickock and their families, and two young men named Keeler and Kellogg.

About a mile east of Castleton village, from the road leading east to Rutland, another road extends northerly past the present Baptist meeting house in Hubbardton-at the northwest corner of the junction of these two roads, was then located the house of George Foot; the January before represented Castleton in the Convention that declared the State independent, and two miles further north was an untenanted house owned by Hickock.

On this morning, this Hickock house was occupied by sixteen militia men, including Captains Williams and Wells from Windham county, on their way to Ti. . They came down early to Mr. Hall's for provisions. Mr. Hall sent his son on horseback, with a letter to Jas. Mead, at Center Rutland, urging that all eastern troops there might hurry on and unite with these men, so as to be strong enough to go safely to Ti. Sometime after this, M . Hall. having gone down to attend religious services in Foot's house, his son Alpheus, lying on the roof of their newly erected barn reading and basking in the sun, hears firing, and a man runs up crying, "The enemy is coming," and soon he sees the militia men retreating and firing-he runs to the barn, takes out two horses, p aces his mother and the younger children on them, and goes rapidly to Foot's house .-Elias having gone down the southeasterly road to the John Fike place, is about to leave there when one of Capt. Will oms' sons runs up, Capt. Tali's letter to Mr. Mead, and Elias runs his horse to Foot's house. The militia being partly scattered and partly retiring to Foot's house, firing was said to have been kept up for some time; but the enemy-estimated between one and two hungred in number-firing from behind the trees, and the mil itia and others firing from Foot's house and the school house, not much morcality ensued. The women and children having been placed down in the cellar, a tory by the name of Griffin, tries to save his precious life by seeking the same security. But soon a hand-to-hand encounter takes place. Elias Hall is struck and with his brother Alpheus, taken prisoner. Capt. Hall is shot in the leg and bleeding profusely, as he lies on the floor, calls for water, his wife is carrying it to him, when a tory, by the name of Jones, kicks the dish out of her hand. Capt. Williams is shot in the groin. but still continues the conflict, and, having dealt a heavy blow to a lieutenant, is bayonetted through the body and expires in a few mo-ments. Foot, having surrendered, is struck on the head by a tory, with a musket, the lock just grazing his skull-the rest of the party are captured or dispersed. Capt. John Hall died 3d Aug., 1777. Capt. Williams' body, wrapt in a blanket, without a coffin, was rudely buried at the root of a tree, and forty-four years after his remains even to the minutest pones, were dug up, and re-buried in the village

grave-yard with appropriate ceremonies.

In the first encounter, one of Capt. Williams' sons was shot in the heel, he escaped into the woods, and, almost starved, arrived in Rutland. Capt. Williams had been in Ti, in the French war, and was eager to be there again. Gen. Wilkinson, who arrived that evening with the army, at Foot's house, says: party of the enemy had preceded us a hours, a skirmish had ensued, and we found an aged citizen killed and scalped, and one of the British infantry mortally wounded."

But Lieut. Elias Hall told me that one Briton, Robert McKinley, was shot through the body, but that his (Hall's) mother, returning good for evil, took such care of him that he recovered. Lieutenant Elias Hall said that when they were attacked at Fcot's, they supposed they were about equal in number to the enemy, that is, about 20 on each side, but had they known the actual superiority of the enemy, they sho'd not have fought. The same day the houses in Castleton Village are visited and parcially pillaged by Indians and Tories, and many of the people commence their flight southward.

The bring extends and is heard so far eastward that the people, assembled in the afternoon in the meeting house at Center Rutland, to hear Rev. Mr. Roots preach, are alarmed and disperse for their homes-the country for some days prior having been filled with the wildest reports of disaster and capture at Ticonderoga. This party of the enemy with their prisoners, retire northward to ()badiah Smith's place and there captured three more prisoners, from whom they learn of the anproach of St. Clair, and then change their route, striking off east of Pittsford mountain This party is stated in Thompson's History

and by St. Elias Hall, to have been commanded by apt. Fraser, who certainly was, a few days before, on the west side of the lake, leading the attack on the American lines. Let us direct our attention to that American army whose banners are now borne backward from the field of strife, ultimately to swell the

numbers and bravery of those conquering heroes, whose mustering squadrons shall soon in triumph tramp upon the British flag at Bennington and Saratoga.

On Saturday, the 5th of July, Maj. Gen. St. Clair, almost surrounded by the army of Burgovne, with advice of his three Brigadiers, Enoch Poor, John Patterson and De Roche Fermey, and of Col. Commandant Pierse Long, decides to evacuate Fort Ti and Mt. Independence, that night at two o'clock. To occupy the attention of the enemy, the cannon at the Jersey redoubt are fired every half hour, while to prevent the preparations for departure from being seen by the enemy, every light and -the sentinels utter no challenges-the north east wind rises at evening, and increases in fury to a perfect gale, preventing all sounds in the American camp from being heard by the beleaguring hosts, but also rendering the boats so unmanageable that at three o'clock a part of the army was still struggling across the bridge from Ti to Mt. Independence, when the Brigadier Gen. De Roche Fermov, having been asleep a part of the time, and negligent the residue of the time, while he should have been superintending the embarkation of his troops, perpetrates the crowning act of his blunders, by setting fira to his own house, on the northerly side of Mt. Independence, thus revealing, by this untoward illumination a constorm and darkness. The hurry to escape seemed to baffe all order: until St. Clair rode ing line of march, obliged them to halt and form a line in rank and file adapted to the narrow road they vere to follow; however, his orders were soon disobeyed, the militia wo'd not stay halled, but pushed on and drew after them many of the Continental troops; while Col. Ebenezer Francis, with his guard of 450 picked men, brought off the rear in admirable

took the rear guard, some two miles from the Expecting to come into possession of their provisions the next day at Skenesborough, the troops took but little bread with them, although they took flour and pork enough for

order. Gen. Poor's brigade, constituted the

van of the retreating army, next marched the militia, between whom and Fermoy's brigade

came Gen. Patterson's brigade, Col. Francis

forming the rear. As the boats push off, un-

der Col. Long, for Skeenesborough, with the

baggage, the sick and convalescent, the ordi-

nance, hospita! and other stores, and a quanti-

ty of provisions, Col. Baldwin says he rode

away with Capt. Buckland, seeing none of our

people except St. Clair's wagoner with his

horses, until they came to the ast house, where

these they made run, until they came up wita

some other soldiers too heavily loaded, who had

they found four soldiers partially drunk, and

the march to the North River. Gen. Poor marching in front, frequently falls back to the rear of his brigade, and, by strenuous exertions, before they had travelled many miles, marshals his men nearly all together; and the residue of the long and arduous tramp is performed in good order, except that the two Massachusetts regiments, Colonel Leonard's regiment-under command of Lt. Col. Jonathan Hale-and Col. Well's regiment_under command of Lt. Col. Ezra May. exhibit the greatest discontent and disorder.

Ordinarily fifteen miles is a good days' march for fresh, well-drilled infantry, over a level country, with smooth, hard roads; but St. Clair, with an army tired and jaded with want of sleep and the toilsome labors of the preceding night, dispirited by turning their backs to the foe, many still suffering and weak from the effects of the measles, proposes to urge on his troops to Castleton, a distance of nearly thirty miles, over a hilly, densely woode! country, in a narrow, new road, whose moist, muddy forest soil would soon poach with the tramp of such a multitude, and proposes to make no halt even, until the army reaches "Lacev's Camp," a distance of about twenty miles; which place was the first cleared land they found after leaving Mount Indepen-

"Lacey's Camp," meets one of the inhabi ants, which will be found subjoined. who informs him that there is a large force of British and Indians at Hubbardton, whereupon he concludes not to halt at "Lacey's Camp," but to push on to Hubbardton, in hopes of defeating or capturing this body of the e..emy; and moving on accordingly, about one o'clock he arrives at "Mr. Burnham's house," located in the immediate vicinity of the spot now occupied by the Baptist Church in Hubbardton, where he learns that the enemy had been there, but had just left for Castleton. Here Gen. P or marks out the ground tor each brigade, and posts each officer, so that he might tall into his place as his brigade and regiment come up.

The weather was so sultry, the march had

been so toilsome, that St Clair found many of the weak and sickly, the old, the infirm, and the juvenile were lagging behind, scattered for two or three miles in the woods, and therefore halted his main army where they were, until about five o'clock; meanwhile sending often to the rear with orders for Col. Francis to hurry on and joi t him. Col. Francis, however, did not arrive at "Lacey's Camp" until about three o'clock, and stopping there ac-cording to the original plan and orders, he halls about two hours and then sends forward Major Dearborn (afterwards Major General and Secretary of War) to inform St. Clair of his approach. St. Clair, relieving Col. Francis from the command of the rear orders, Col. Warner with his own regiment, and Col. Na-than Hale's to remain at Habbardton and cover his retreat until Co'. Francis came up, then to take command of their three regiments com-bined, and move on moderately after him to within a mile and a half of the road leading from Castleton village to Rutland, there en camp for the night, but to rouse up his men and march so as to join the main army at Castleton by four o'clock the next morning. And then St. Clair, supposing that his orders would be of course implicitly obeyed, and having

been reinforced by a large share of the strag-

glers, moves the main army on southward .-He soon meets and disperses a part of the enemy that had been collecting cattle in the country and takes 26 of them prisoners, and arrives about eight o'clock directly east of Castleton village, where he encamps, lodging himself in the house of George Foot, while (another specimen of the fatigue of the soldiers and of the want of obedience to the orders of their commanding general) two regiments under Col. Bellows, his own and Col. Halcott's regiment, encamp for the night three or four miles north of St. Clair.

Capt. Wolcott testified at the court martial of St. Clair, that he was in tront when the main army arrived at Hubbardton. He lay down and fell asleep. When he awoke, he found the party were nearly all gone. He asks Capt. Smith where they were gone to?
Smith replied to Castleton. Wolcott asks Smith if they were to march? Smith an swers, that it was Gen. St. Clair's orders, delivered by Gen. Patterson, that they were to march to Castleton. After this c nversation Capt. Woolcott goes into a house, where he finds Cols, Warner, Francis and Hale. Wolcott enquires of Warner whether he had determined to march any further? Warner replies, be did not, that night; although there were orders to march to Casaleton, he did not 1 itend to go on any further, because the men were much fatigued. St Clair sends up orders two or three times in the evening, and once toward morning, for Warner to Lring up the rear, as he had been instructed to do, but all his orders, to that effect, were in vain.

We have thus briefly considered the circumstances which placed the rear of the army of the prudent and anx ous St. Clair in such a persious condition, a danger caused by rank disobedience to his orders; and while we sympathise with Warner's tenderness for his soldiers, we cannot avoid doubting whether his previous habits in the New Hampshire Grants had not implanted a deeper regard for personal bravery than for strict military obedience, while the fearful results of his mistaken mercy signally exemplify i s tolly.

Let us turn our attention to his pursuers. The evacuation of Ticonderoga and Mt. Ina really brilliant achievement, until the illtimed bonfire of the F. ench Brigadier General marred its beauty and destroyed its success.

The indefatigable British General Fraser, as scon as the Forts were fairly taken possession of, without waiting for orders from Burgoyne, takes 850 of his best troops, and, followed by Baron Reidsel with three battallions of the more sluggish Germans, commences the pursuit of the American army, while Burgoyne garrisons the Forts, and eagerly follows Col. Long and his party. But notwithstanding the promptness of the pursuit, the health, discipline and spirit of his troops. Fraser found the d fliculties of the march so great, that he could not overtake the Americans, during tat fused retreat of more than 3,000 men, amid whole day although he picked up several stragglers from their army, who informed him that the rear guard was composed of picked from the rear to the front of the long extend- men, under Col. Francis whom the Americans regarded as one of their best officers, and also that the rear was detached some miles distant from the main army; but after travelling, according to their own report, very ex peditiously from four o'clock until one he halts his army about four m.les north-westerly of "Lacey's Camp," and there waits until Baron Reidsel comes up. Together they plan and arrange an attack on the American rear in the morning, and towards night Fraser goes forward about three miles, and, selecting an advantageous situation, his men sleep that night on their arms.

Thus briefly have been presented some of the noticeable peculiarities and features of RutlandCounty at the time of which we treat, with its invasion. Perhaps at some future time there may be presented to the soci ty, such gleanings as have been gathered concerning the next day's battle-an event which hitherto has received less attention from the historian, than the chroniclers of our day bestow upon the details of a Lilliputian wedstopped to throw down a part; they endeavor- ding, the genealogy of a spavined horse, or ed to bring all up with them until they over- the all un-utterable glories of a "Cornwall finished" sheep.

Patriotic Meeting in Chester.

Pursuant to a call signed by citizens of several towns, a large audience assembled on Friday, the 27th inst., at the Congregational Church in Chester. The meeting was called to order by Hon. H. H. Henry. On motion of Dr. Barret, of Chester, an organization was effected by the choice of the following offi-

President. Hon. H. H. Henry, of Chester.

Vice Presidents. Crosby Miller, of Pomfret. Solomon Howard, of Andover. Ryland Fletcher, of Cavendish. Ryland Haven, of Ludlow. Spencer H. Leonard, of Chester. Samuel Taylor, of Springfield. William Stearns, of Rockingham. Francis Daniels, of Grafton. Secretaries.

Dr. D. K. Story, of Cavendish, M. C. Hyde, of Ludlow. M. Burbank, of Ludlow, was appointed Re-

The Chairman introduced the business of the meeting in an able o could speech and

read letters from the army and a senes of res-Gen. Poor, when within about a mile of olutions lately passed by the 6th Regiment, have carried away furniture and every-On motion of B. C. Haven, of Ludlow, the following gentlemen were appointed a committee to draft resolutions:

Hon, I. T. Barrett, Ryland Fletcher, Francis Paniels, Rev. W. S. Balch, and S. H. Leonard. While the committee was occupied. Gov.

Fletcher was called out, and responded in his usual happy manner.

Rev. Mr. Balch was next called for and addressed the meeting at length setting forth of the past, with the encouragements and

claims of the present. Dr. Edson and Major Hall, of the 1st Vermont Cavalry, testified most enphatically to the falsehood of the report that their companions in arms were becoming dishertened or less

devoted to their country's cause Messrs. Holmes and Daniels of Grafton, also spoke briefly, but pertinently.

Prof. Kimball, of Saxton's River, was present, and by his patriotic songs gave an inter-

esting variety to the exercises.

The Committee on Resolutions reported the following, which were unanimously adopted : WHEREAS, a voice has reached us from the tented field of the noble 16th Regiment of Vermont Volunteers, now facing the rebels and defending our liberties, therefore,

Resolved, That it gives us new courage to double our efforts to strengthen the hands and animate the hearts of our valiant defenders in their patriotic endeavors to erush this unboly rebellion, conceived in sin and brought forth in

Resolved, That we tender to our Vermont Volunteers, and to all the patriotic soldiers who are now arrayed against the infernal rebels, our most sincere and heartfelt sympathy; and that we most cordially assure them that while they attend to the traitors, we will at tend to their sympathisers in the rear, with a bold and unflinching determination that the Union must and shall be preserved.

Resolved, That we will use every effort and avail ourselves of every means that a just and beneficent God has put into our hands; and we say in the language of Hon. Daniel S. Dickinson, that "we will avail ourselves of every element, slave or free, white or black, on two legs or four, to put down this hell-born rebellion."

Resolved, That we assure our valient sold-Resolved, That we assure our valuent soldiers in arms that we sympathize with them in
their sufferings and privations in camp and on
the battle field; that we are with them in
spirit; that we will stand by them in life and
honor them in death; that they need not fear
the copperheads at home, for the conscription
bill has become a law, and their ranks shall be
kept filled, if need be, at the point of the bayonet; and that their patriotic resolutions shall
reach every hamlet and fireside in the free
Resolved, That

Resolved, That as true and loyal citizens, we will stand by our honest President, who is borne down with heavy re ponsibilities in his efforts to crush this unholy rebellion, till every vestige of treason is wiped out from this once happy but now distrement

happy but now distressed nation.

Resolved. That we have the most entire confidence in the generalship, ability and patriotism, of Gen. Benjamin F. Butler; that his conduct in the war has embalmed his memory in the heart of e ery loyal and patriotic citizen, and that his name will be revered through future generations forever and ever.

Resolved, That we will stand by the Gov. ernment, the army and navy, to the last of the rebellion; that they shall never want for what we can do to crush out traitors, South and North, and when peace is honorably ratified, we will attend to po icies, with or without the councils of copperheads. Resolved, That we, as citizens of Vermont

do request the President of the United States to place John C. Fremont in an active command, and give him men and means to disp ay his talent before the nation. On motion of Mr. Salch, it was voted that the proceedings of the meeting be turnished for publication, as well as the letter and resolutions from our 16th regiment, and that co-

nies be sent to all the Vermont Regiments in The meeting then adjourned till evening. At the evening session, which drew a full house, in the absence of the President, Dr. H. H. Palmer, of Ludlow, was called to the

chair. A contraband, formerly in the rehel service. addressed the house, acquitting himself well and highly entertaining the audience by his

peculiar style. The meeting finally adjourned to meet at Ludlow Wednesday evening, March 4, and at Proctorsville Friday enening, March 6. HUGH H. HENRY, President.

R. STORY, | Secretaries. M. C. HYDE,

The following are the resolutions referred to above, adopted by the 16th Vermont Regi-

WHEREAS, We have learned with deep mortification, that reports emanating, no doubt, from the hearts of traitors or cowards, have gone forth, which represent the Vermont troops now in the field as clouded in despondency, and wanting in that patriotism which actuated their first steps in the great work still before them : now, therefore, that our friends may be reassured, and traitors everywhere be informed just where we stand, the undersigned, officers of the Sixteenth Regiment Vermont Volunteers,

Resolve. That we have ever regarded the pr sent rebellion as hell born, and that, difficult as the task may seem, it becomes the imperative duty of every true man to devote his entire energies, and hi life, if need be, to secure its everlasting death.

Resolved, That we regard all northern men as double traitors who cry "peace" upon any terms other than an unqualified submission of the rebellious States. Resolved. That reverses, though to be re-

gretted, should not discourage, but strengthen the determination of all loval men to con-Resolved. That, as a regiment, we have ever

entertained the utmost confidence in the ultimate success of the Union Army. Resolved. That we hail with delight the efforts of the administration and Congress to maintain in the field an efficient army.

The foregoing preamble and resolutions, signed by all the officers present, were read at dress parade this evening, and unanimously adopted by the regiment with great enthusi-

W. G. VEAZEY, Col. Com'd'g the Reg't. Headquarters Sixteenth Regiment Vermont Volunteers, Camp at Fairfax Station, Va., Feb. 23d, 1863.

Matters in the Department of the South, Advices from Port Royal to the 25th ult.

say:
We have been waiting since the 1st inst. for the iron-clads to arrive and assist us. Adjutant General Townsend arrived here on the 22d inst., with power, it is said to adjudicate all the differences existing between Gen. Foster's and Gen. Hunter's forces. The arrest of Gen. Stevenson and chief quartermaster Slaight of Gen. Foster's command, by Gen. Hunter, grew out of a misunderstanding of the facts. They are both to be honorably released. The forces from North Carolina are not to be taken out of that Department permanently, but are to remain under the command of Gen. Hunter. Gen. Foster has returned to Newbern to make

arrangements for another expedition. The grand review by Gen. Hunter, of the entire force fram North Carolina, took place on the 24th. Our iron-ciad navy will soon have entire control of Charleston harbor. The health and spirits of the troops are good and everything indicates success.

A Hilton Head letter says there is reason to believe that active operations in the departpartment of the south will not be much long r delayed. The rebels have three lines of fortifications on James Island, de ended by 12) guns, and 22 000 men on that and Morris Island, with three thousand on Sullivan's Island; but is not at ad unlikely hat the attack com-Prayer was offered by Rev. C. G. Gurr, of ing from some other quarter these detences will prove worthless. The reports relative to matter in Charleston are somewhat contradictory, but the general evidence is that the people have nearly all left the place. They have thing of vaue, and intend to surn the city rather than have it taken by the Union forces. The rebels are perplexed by the operations of Admiral Dupont and Gen. Hunter. Troops are advancing in the direction of Savannah; a portion of Gen. Foster's forces have been thrown southward; heavy cannon are loading at the pier on schooners and tugs, which are to be placed in position by troops already sent out. When the fleet moves from Port Royal it will be in a condition to sail either toward Charleston or Savannah, as prudence may dictate.

ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF GENERAL BANKS .- The New Orleans correspondent of the Boston Journal, writing under date of the 12th, tells the following story respecting an attempt made to assasinate Gen.

Banks: "This evening, as he was passing out at the ladies' entrance to the City Hotel, for the purpose of attending the French opera, and before he stepped into his carriage, a pistol was dis-charged from a recess in the wall, and a ball whizzed close to the person of Gen. Banks, and also close to an officer who attended him. The General was not hit, and the dastardly asassin escaped through the crowd. The police are on his track, and he cannot long avoid capture. From the faint report made by the weapon, it is supposed to have belonged to the class known as the "Montecristo" pistol.— The affair has caused much excited just indignation in the community."

The Missouri Emancipation Bill has not passed, and it is now feared, that owing to the want of time it will be lost. Mr. Noel, its ablest friend, is sick, and it is tho't imposs to pass it against the determined opposition of the democrats who threaten to filibuster, if

the slave managements

ACKET SE